

CLEANUP PRIORITIES FOR THE Y-12 NATIONAL SECURITY COMPLEX

FACT: Y-12 National Security Complex (Y-12) plays a key role in strengthening our country's national security by retrieving and storing nuclear materials, fueling the country's naval reactors, and reducing global threats. Formerly, Y-12 operated uranium enrichment and lithium separation facilities during the Manhattan Project and Cold War—era that protected our country but resulted in contamination of its facilities and the environment.

CHALLENGE: Contaminated and deteriorating facilities on the Y-12 site pose risks to employees and the environment, are costly to maintain, and require strict monitoring. The Oak Ridge Office of Environmental Management (OREM) must conduct large-scale cleanup and remediation activities while minimizing impacts to ongoing national security missions at Y-12.

SOLUTION: OREM will coordinate the safe and efficient cleanup of the Y-12 site — including building demolition and land and water remediation. This enables Y-12 to continue its national defense missions, achieve a smaller, modernized footprint, and create a safer environment for employees and the community.

CLEANUP GOALS

Completing cleanup efforts at Y-12 will protect human health and the environment, reduce facility and maintenance costs, and support future missions.



Remove and dispose of legacy materials and waste



Demolish more than 90 excess facilities



Remediate contaminated soil and water



Modernize Y-12's footprint



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CLEANUP PROJECTS



FACILITY DECOMMISSIONING AND DEMOLITION (D&D)

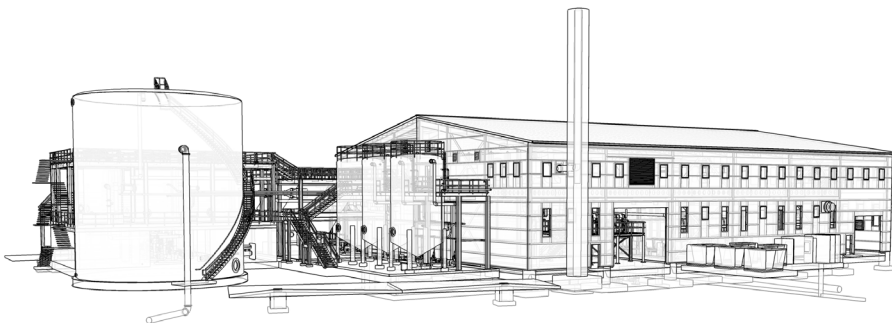
D&D projects at Y-12 encompass 102 total buildings and approximately 3.4 million square feet (highlighted in red). Three buildings will be decontaminated/deactivated and kept for historical preservation, while the remaining buildings will be demolished.



SURVEILLANCE AND MAINTENANCE (S&M) OPERATIONS PROJECTS

OREM conducts S&M activities such as inspections, routine maintenance, and repairs to help ensure facilities are maintained in the safest condition possible until they can be taken down.

Oak Ridge's EM program also conducts environmental monitoring to provide data regarding the effectiveness of past and future remedial actions; monitor the movement of contaminants; and verify compliance with regulatory requirements.



REMEDIATION

Four overarching projects are planned to remediate water and soil contamination on the Y-12 site and surrounding areas including **Bear Creek Valley, Clinch River/Poplar Creek and Chestnut Ridge.**

At the **Upper East Fork Poplar Creek**, construction of a water treatment facility will help reduce mercury releases by 84% and help meet Clean Water Act standards for fish consumption. The creek already meets drinking water standards.



WASTE MANAGEMENT PROJECTS

Waste management projects include planning, constructing, and operating waste disposal facilities for wastes generated from OREM's cleanup work.

With the existing on-site disposal facility near capacity, a second environmental management disposal facility is needed to remove aging excess facilities at Y-12 and Oak Ridge National Laboratory. This facility will be located in Bear Creek Valley, near Y-12.



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